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VANCOUVER • MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008 metronews

GoingGreen

Good news for our boreal forests Pg8

Celebrity Pg14

Hudson willing to talk about ex hubby

Matsqui locked down after prisoner stabbings

INSTITUTION Abbotsford's Matsqui Institution was locked down yesterday morning after a stabbing resulted in two prisoners being taken to hospital.

At 9:30 a.m., staff discovered an inmate suffering from chest wounds. He was transferred to the institution's health care unit before an air ambulance took him to the hospital, said Dave Lefebvre of Corrections Canada. The inmate is now in stable condition.

"Immediately following the discovery, the institution was in lockdown so we can investigate what happened and to ensure the safety of staff and inmates," Lefebvre said.

During the inspection, staff found a second inmate with less serious stab wounds. He was also taken to the hospital.

JOYCE YIP/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Entertainment p12

Bernie Mac dead at 50

Beijing page 10

Swim records falling fast

Please recycle

Pit bulls attack man, dog

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Vancouver

A man and his dog were attacked by a pack of five pit bulls in Surrey yesterday.

The man, who only wished to be identified as "Jody," was walking his dog, an Italian Mastiff, in a wooded area near 146th Street and 80A Avenue when the pit bulls attacked.

According to media reports, he suffered leg injuries, but refused medical attention. His dog was taken to a vet.

Surrey RCMP Staff Sgt. Randall Marquardt said a male was seen fleeing with the dogs and that police are working to identifying him.

Because the pit bulls were off-leash, they could face a number of consequences, such as being seized or put down. Their owner could also face a fine.

In late July, it was reported that regional bylaw officers were looking for the owner of a pack of pit-bull crosses believed responsible for at least eight attacks in the Lower Mainland and in Vancouver.

In May, an 11-year-old Surrey boy was mauled by two pit bulls, requiring more than 100 stitches and three hours of surgery.

Share your thoughts »
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

North Vancouver's own **Eye on the birdie**

BEAWIHARTA/REUTERS

Anna Rice of Canada eyes the shuttlecock yesterday during their women's singles round of 32 badminton match against Jeannine Cicognini of Switzerland at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

Probe launched into escape of inmates

An internal investigation is underway at North Fraser Pre-Trial Centre in Port Coquitlam after two inmates escaped from the high-security jail in less than a year.

The investigation will look at the transfer of prisoners to-and-from court proceedings, CBC News reported.

On Tuesday, Dean Sykes was released from the facility after he went to court posing as another prisoner.

Dean Sykes

Sykes was arrested Friday after he was identified by a gas station attendant in Bridal Falls.

In November, Persian gangster Omid Tahvilli bribed a prison guard and walked from the facility disguised as a janitor. An internal investigation into Tahvilli's escape has been completed. METRO VANCOUVER

Canada page 6

Explosion rocks Toronto

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Chinatown celebrates Olympics in style
Thousands of people went down to Chinatown over the weekend to celebrate the Beijing Olympics with professional traditional dragon dancers and drummers. A giant outdoor screen was set up for Olympic coverage and interviews with B.C. athletes from Beijing. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Local

Father warns of illness

A Coquitlam father of a 15-year-old who died of meningitis is asking teens to stop sharing water bottles. Colin Campbell organized a beach soccer tournament Saturday to warn people that bacterial meningitis could be spread through saliva. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Stuff White People Like: Book tours?

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Vancouver

If you've ever found difficulty in winning the affection of white people, fear no more: Author Christian Lander has boiled it down to a calculated science.

"You have to offer white people glimpses into your culture, then reward white people by telling them how adventurous they are for trying tripe, or anything that's somewhat strange," said the Toronto native. "At that point, they will love you so much that you can get rides to the airport, food. You can milk it a lot for what it's worth."

Lander

This wisdom is one of the themes behind Stuff White People Like: The Definitive Guide To The Unique Taste Of Millions, Lander's new book, which he will be signing at Chapters (788 Robson St.) tomorrow at 7 p.m.

The satirical guide was spawned from his blog, Stuff White People Like, which was born after a discussion with his friend Myles, who said he didn't trust any white person who didn't watch The Wire.

"We said, 'What are white people doing instead of watching the show?' and we came up with ideas like going to therapy, doing yoga, going to plays," said Lander. "We said, 'That's funny. It's time to start a blog.'"

The blog quickly grew in popularity, earning mentions on Comedy Central and getting about 300,000 hits a day. It has also spawned sites like Stuff Educated Black People Like and Stuff Asian People Like.

A few morsels

A few things that white people like (according to Christian Lander):

- Wes Anderson: "If a white guy takes a white girl to a Wes Anderson movie on their first date, and neither of them have seen it, they will immediately commence a relationship that is reflected in songs by Ryan Adams and Bright Eyes."
- Yoga: "Deep down in some way, white people feel that participation makes up for years of colonial rule in India."
- Arrested Development: "Even though most white people prefer to say that they don't watch television, one thing they agree on is that Arrested Development was the best how on TV."

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Revellers take part in the 35th Annual Vancouver Chariot Festival in the west end yesterday. The parade drew thousands and was organized by the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

20,000 take in 'joyful' Chariot fest

HINDU A summer pageant rivaling the Santa Claus parade wound its way through the west end yesterday featuring music, colourful costumes and three intricately decorated chariot floats.

The 35th annual Chariot Festival, a Hindu parade honouring Jagannath, a form of Krishna, grew to as many as 20,000 people as spectators joined the parade en route to its finale at Stanley Park.

"It's a very festive, joyful festival," said Jaya Govinda Das, one of the organizers.

"Jagannath comes out of his temple once a year and he rides on his magnificent chariots (blessing) everyone by smiling upon them."

"Vancouver is a very diverse, multicultural city so this event is hosted as a multicultural event," he said, adding the chariots are the pride and climax of the parade, as is Santa Claus' sleigh at Christmas parades.

Priya Moore, 22, has been coming to the festival all her life, and came to Vancouver from Nelson for the event.

"It's a family tradition we're passing on to our daughter," she said. "It's really fun, free food, nice people."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

BCers hold own in start to Olympics

GAMES British Columbians pulled their weight in the first few days of the Beijing Olympics this weekend.

In women's singles for badminton, North Vancouver's Anna Rice beat Switzerland's Jeannine Cicognini to move on to yesterday's round of 16.

In rowing, Brentwood Bay's Iain Brambel and Victoria's Mike Lewis were among those who advanced with a second-place finish. Tracy Cameron of Victoria helped Canada take second in the women's lightweight doubles race and Krista Guloien of Vancouver helped her team take third in women's quad sculls.

Brent Hayden of Mission and Rick Say of Salmon Arm were among the group that made it to the 4x100 freestyle finals in swimming. Hayden, considered one of the country's top medal hopefuls, also placed third in qualifying for the Men's 200 freestyle.

ANDREA WOO/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

SENTENCE A B.C. prison guard who helped a high-profile Iranian gangster escape was sentenced to three years and three months in jail.

At Friday's sentence hearing, Judge Peter Leask said he took into account a psychiatrist's report, which said Edwin Ticne, 35, was suffering depression as well as alcohol and gambling issues at the time of the escape. He added time in prison will be hard for the former guard. In April, Ticne pleaded guilty to accepting a bribe helping an inmate escape the North Fraser Pre-Trial Centre. Ticne dressed the man as a janitor and walked-ed him out. METRO NEWS SERVICES

metronews.ca

What's online today.

View a photo gallery and clips of yesterday's massive explosion and fire
Watch video reports on memorials for a Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan and the victim of the Greyhound bus killing
Check movie showtimes, trailers and reviews at metronews.ca/movies
Search for jobs using Metro's Workopolis search
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These results are not official.

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Canada Line moving right along

Construction of the Canada Line is 80 per cent finished, cknw.com reports. InTransitBC said that the project is on budget and most of its surface construction is finished. Trains are expected to make test runs along No. 3 Road in Richmond by the end of August.

TODAY'S *question*

How do you think Vancouver's Olympic opening ceremonies will stack up in comparison to Beijing's?

TORI WILCOX
23
Vancouver
server
"I don't know if the winter Games hold quite the same prestige as the summer Games. (Beijing) might have felt more of a need to put on such a big show in light of the recent controversy."

CHANTAL SPECTOR
28
Yaletown
marketing
"I can't really see Vancouver doing quite the fireworks extravaganza with its pollution standards. I'm sure ... there's going to be a big focus on diversity and multiculturalism."

STEVEN TONG
32
Vancouver
independent
curator
"Vancouver's opening ceremony need not stack up in terms of spectacle to Beijing's. Given its context, its ceremony should have an ecological conscience."

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

CONTACT US:

E-mail your letters to: vancouverletters@metronews.ca. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Music festival erupts

KRISTEN THOMPSON
for Metro Vancouver

The sound of techno, jungle and bhangra music thumped through the trees at the usually tranquil Cates Park in Deep Cove yesterday, for a festival focused on community, art and social dialogue.

The Under The Volcano festival is a celebration of art and social change and "was started to create a space for youth and to celebrate community," said Krisztina Kun, volunteer co-ordinator for the 18th annual event.

Popular Calgary songstresses Tegan and Sara were among the performers, which Kun said brought younger festival-goers who might not have known about the community groups in attendance, including organizations focused on women's and immigrants' rights, or those condemning the 2010 Games.

Michelle Dobbs, with the North Shore Women's Shelter, said taking part in the festival was a chance to meet other people working in activism.

"It's an opportunity to connect with other organizations who share similar mandates, visions and social aims," she said. "It's a good opportunity to be together and see where commonalities are."

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Nadia Rup, right, and Chaney Sidhu, of BPM Crew, belt out some props to fans at the Under The Volcano Festival in Deep Cove yesterday. The celebration highlights music and social awareness.

Jungle boogie

- Other performers included DJ Jacob Cino, Declan De Barra and Bicycle Shed Ensemble.
- Organizers were expecting as many as 5,000 attendees.

B.C. bureaucrats get $4M raise

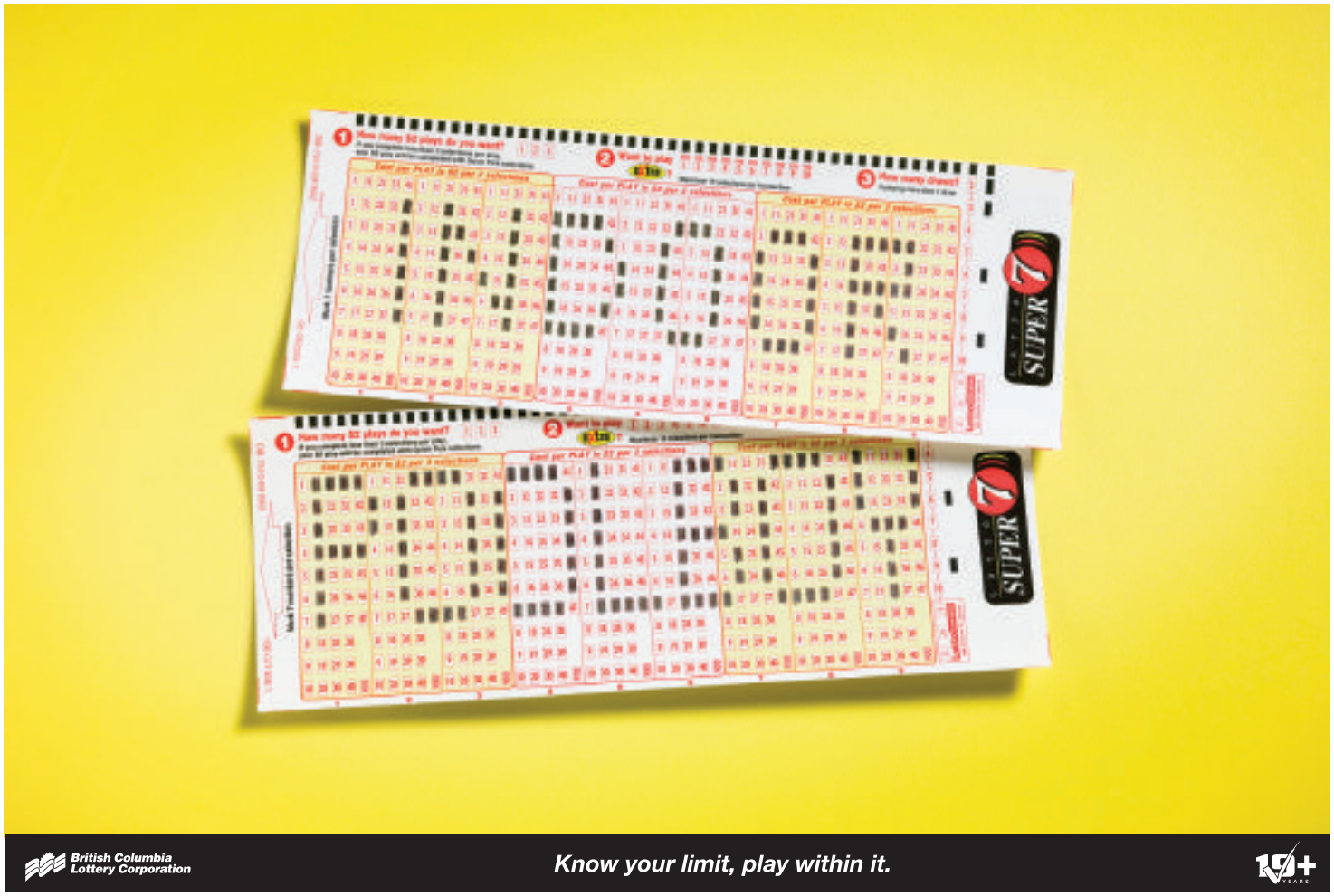
POLITICS Salaries of B.C.'s top bureaucrats will increase by as much as 43 per cent — making the province the third highest paid in Canada.

B.C.'s minister responsible for labour market development said Friday the estimated $4-million raise is necessary to attract top executives and to keep pace with the rest of the country, according to CBC News. New Democrat House Leader, Mike Farnworth, criticized the raise as "obscene." He added that the massive salary increase would make life even more expensive for British Columbians.

JOYCE YIP FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

NOMINATION Jamie Lee Hamilton is seeking the NPA nomination for Vancouver Park Board, news1130.com reports. Hamilton, who has been active in the social, cultural and gender communities, said she would ensure safe and productive green spaces for all ages as well as an even distribution of resources to every neighbourhood. METRO VANCOUVER



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Khadr's lawyers sue Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Lawyers for Omar Khadr, the Canadian man imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay have filed a lawsuit against Prime Minister Stephen Harper in a bid to force him to intercede with Washington on the inmate's behalf. Harper has so far refused to ask the United States to repatriate Khadr. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

"Road mortality is a significant factor of influencing snake populations."

Adam Martinson, a University of Calgary student working on a Masters degree, speaking about his study of snake deaths.

Snakes

Martinson is at Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta, trying to discover why snakes, in increasing frequency, are being compelled to slither on to the province's roadways. REUTERS

'Sounded like an atomic bomb'

Massive propane explosion rocks Toronto neighbourhood

As the flames died down from yesterday's massive series of explosions at a Toronto propane plant, they left behind a cloud of outrage.

Thousands of people, forced to flee their homes, are demanding answers from the city as to why Sunrise Propane Industrial Gases was allowed three years ago to build a distribution plant in a long-established residential area in Toronto

A 25-year veteran of the fire department, Bob Leek, died fighting the conflagration. A Sunrise employee was missing and believed also to have died.

He reportedly was last seen heading toward the fire.

But the neighbourhood got off very lucky, said Toronto Fire Division Commander Bob O'Hallarn, though the pre-dawn blast shattered windows over a wide area and flying debris damaged buildings hundreds of metres away.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORONTO STAR

A fire started in a propane storage area in the Wilson and Keele area of Toronto on Sunday morning. Area residents were awoken by a blast that shook houses and broke windows blocks away.

"It sounded like an atomic bomb, said Fernando Caschera, 56. "My father wakes up and he goes, 'What are you making so much noise for?'"

The owner of Sunrise was said to be out of the country.

The fire continued to burn last night, but was declared "under control."

Several people described the panic of being roused from their sleep by a series of rolling explosions, their homes brightly lit by orange fireballs soaring into the sky.

"I thought it was a terrorist attack," said Carlos Montoya.

Others feared an earthquake or a jetliner crashing down on them.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Church backs out of protest

JEFF CUMMINGS
Metro Canada

MURDER A controversial U.S. church group that had planned a protest outside of a funeral for a slain carnival worker Saturday backed out for fear of being arrested, said one member yesterday.

Shirley Phelps-Roper, a member of the Kansas-based Westboro Baptist Church, says six youths and an adult did make it through the border to picket outside of Tim McLean's funeral in Winnipeg, but the church changed its mind at the last minute because "laws in Canada do not protect their right to protest."

The group has angered Canadians from coast-to-coast by planning to stage a protest at McLean's funeral who claims the 22-year-old man, beheaded on a Greyhound bus, "deserved his fate" since he lived an "immoral and godless life like other Canadians."

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN An investigation is under way as it's believed Canadian soldier, Master Cpl. Josh Roberts may have been killed accidentally by a passing convoy of private security guards over the weekend.

CANADIAN DETAINED Five Tibet activists including 24-year-old Montrealer Chris Schwartz have been detained after they used fake blood to stage a dramatic protest in Tiananmen Square yesterday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Edwards admits to affair
Former U.S. Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards admitted Friday he had an extramarital affair in 2006 with a woman who produced videos for his campaign, but said he was not the father of her infant daughter. Edwards' wife Elizabeth said she supports him as the family works through the healing process. REUTERS

World/Business

Georgia pulls troops back, offers ceasefire

Russian troops take control of South Ossetia capital

Georgia offered Russia a ceasefire and peace talks yesterday after pulling troops back from rebel South Ossetia's capital and mediators began a mission to end the internationally condemned fighting.

Some fighting still gripped parts of the Caucasus region, however, and Russia demanded an unconditional Georgian withdrawal.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner arrived in Tbilisi at the head of an international team of mediators, the first top level diplomatic mission to fly to the region in an attempt to stem the bloodshed. It was due to move on to Moscow today.

After meeting Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, Kouchner said a "controlled withdrawal of the troops" was his main priority.

"Coming back to the table, negotiations, peace talks, a political solution. That's it. Easy to say, very difficult to do," Kouchner told journalists in Tbilisi.

The United States maintained its strong criticism of Russia, condemning its "disproportionate and dangerous" military action.

REUTERS/DAVID MDZINARISHVILI

A Georgian woman holding her baby cries at her damaged home in Gori yesterday. Russia has started an operation to storm the Georgian-controlled Kodori gorge in Georgia's breakaway region of Abkhazia, the Georgian Interior Ministry said yesterday.

Russian troops and tanks took control of Tskhinvali, the region's devastated capital, early yesterday after a three-day battle. Moscow said 2,000 civilians were killed and thousands made homeless in a "humanitarian catastrophe."

There has been no independent confirmation of the number of dead and wounded throughout the region.

REUTERS

Karzai urges action in Pakistan

TALIBAN Afghan President Hamid Karzai yesterday urged the world to target the Taliban in Pakistan, adding operations by foreign troops in his country had only led to civilian deaths among Afghans and not success in the war.

Afghanistan and Pakistan are both U.S. allies, but ties between the two have for decades been dogged by a border dispute. Recently, Kabul openly accused Pakistan of involvement in violence in Afghanistan, where the Taliban and al-Qaida militants routinely attack foreign and Afghan forces. REUTERS

Bombers hit West China again

SEPARATISTS Suspected Muslim separatists and suicide bombers launched a dozen attacks in west China yesterday, killing 11 people in the blasts and a subsequent shootout with police in renewed violence two days into the Olympics.

It was the second attack in restive Xinjiang in a week after 16 police were killed at a border post on Monday.

China says militants seeking an independent "East Turkestan" homeland for Muslim Uighurs in the Xinjiang region are among the top threats to the Beijing Olympics, which began Friday.

Homemade grenade attacks shook Kuqa, a town in the south of Xinjiang more than 3,000 km from Beijing, as 15 men attacked supermarkets, hotels and government offices in the early hours of yesterday, the official Xinhua news agency said.

REUTERS

News in brief

VIETNAM About 80 people have been killed and dozens remain missing in north Vietnam as heavy rains brought by tropical storm Kammuri triggered landslides and floods. The country's weather officials warned of more flash floods and landslides yesterday in what has been described as the biggest natural disaster to hit Vietnam this year.

PRISONER Guantanamo's only convict was moved to a prison wing hours after U.S. military jurors found him guilty of driving Osama bin Laden, his lawyers said. Still, serving out his 66-month sentence doesn't mean he'll walk free; he'll be retained as an enemy combatant and then become eligible for a review process to determine if he qualifies for release or transfer.

REUTERS

Business

July job report labelled 'gruesome' by analysts

ECONOMY Canada's slowing economy took a surprise hit in July with the worst job losses since the 1991 recession, sending the loonie to its lowest level in nearly a year while the U.S. dollar strengthened and oil and gold tumbled yet again — and economists say things will only get worse before they get better.

Statistics Canada said an unexpected 55,200 jobs were lost in Canada last month, providing more evidence of a continued economic slowdown and prompting economists to label the figures everything from "grisly" to "gruesome."

Most of the losses, 48,000, were in part-time work and were centred in manufacturing, business, building and other support services and educational services, the government agency reported Friday.

The news put more downward pressure on the Canadian dollar, which fell another 1.28 cents to close a devastating week at 93.69 cents U.S., a level it hasn't seen since the middle of last August.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Provincial hits

- Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island all took a hit on the job loss front.

Hybrid sales jump 66% since last year

AUTOMOTIVE Soaring gasoline prices have sparked a huge increase in hybrid auto sales in Canada during the first half of this year and are causing some shortages, according to automakers.

Hybrid auto sales jumped by more than 66 per cent to almost 12,000 in the first six months from the same period in 2007, figures from manufacturers show.

Although hybrids still represent only 1.3 per cent of the market, analysts say continuing record fuel costs should increase that number significantly over the next few years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

CARBON OUTPUT More than 20 U.S. cities, including New York, Las Vegas and Denver, have agreed to measure their carbon footprints, with a system some 1,300 companies have been persuaded to use, in an attempt to find ways to curb emissions blamed for warming the planet.

ONLINE Google Inc. and Yahoo Inc. released on Friday excerpts of a pact covering their search advertising partnership that keeps secret financial terms and the extent of other ties between the two. In a filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the companies take the unusual step of disclosing the contract, but leave out any financial terms, such as the revenue split on their deal. REUTERS

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Metro is the world's largest newspaper, with more than 20 million daily readers in 100 major cities in 21 countries. metronews.ca

Shine a light on fluorescent bulbs

If 1 million people changed four incandescent light bulbs each to compact fluorescent light bulbs, 900,000 tons of greenhouse gases would be eliminated, according to The Live Earth: Global Warming Survival Handbook by David de Rothschild. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Green

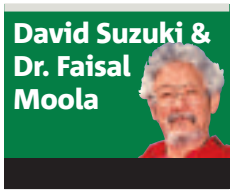
Water, water everywhere

Canada's water use averages out to 1,600 cubic metres of water per capita each year. This is double the amount used in France per person, nearly four times the water use of the average Swede and more than eight times that of the average Dane, according to Greeniology: How To Live Well, Be Green And Make A Difference by Tanya Ha. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Positive signs for North

ScienceMatters



Are Canadian politicians finally paying serious attention to the environment?

Recent events and announcements give us reason for optimism.

The Ontario government's recent commitment to protect 50 per cent of its intact boreal forest offers further hope that governments are getting serious about protecting the planet.

On July 14, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty committed to preserve 225,000 square kilometres of northern boreal forest under the province's Far North Planning Initiative.

It's a significant commitment, and it's something more than 1,500 of the world's scientists had asked for, including us.

The boreal forest stretches across the northern part of Canada, touching almost every province and territory and covering 35 per cent of the country's total land mass. It represents about one third of the world's circumpolar boreal system and one quarter of all intact forests remaining on the planet.

"The Ontario government's recent commitment to protect 50 per cent of its intact boreal forest offers hope that governments are getting serious about protecting the planet."

The region supports three billion migratory songbirds and more than 200 species of animals, including dozens of threatened or endangered species such as woodland caribou, grizzly and polar bears, wolverine, lynx, and white pelican.

The announcement is significant not just in terms of conservation but also because it marks the first time a government in Canada has explicitly recognized the role nature conservation must play in combating global warming.

The boreal's forests and peatlands absorb and store massive amounts of carbon, making them a hedge against global warming caused by emissions from human activity.

Scientists estimate that Ontario's northern boreal alone absorbs 12.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year. With this announcement, Ontario has taken an important and courageous step, one that we hope other provinces will follow.

For example, Quebec has protected less than five per cent of its own boreal forest, and although it has plans to increase this, it has yet to make a commitment as visionary as Ontario's.

The recent attention governments have been paying to the environment are positive signs. But successful conservation efforts can't be limited to aspirational goals announced at news conferences. We all have a responsibility to make sure governments live up to their commitments.

Take David Suzuki's Nature Challenge and learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

Dr. David T. Suzuki is a Vancouver-based award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

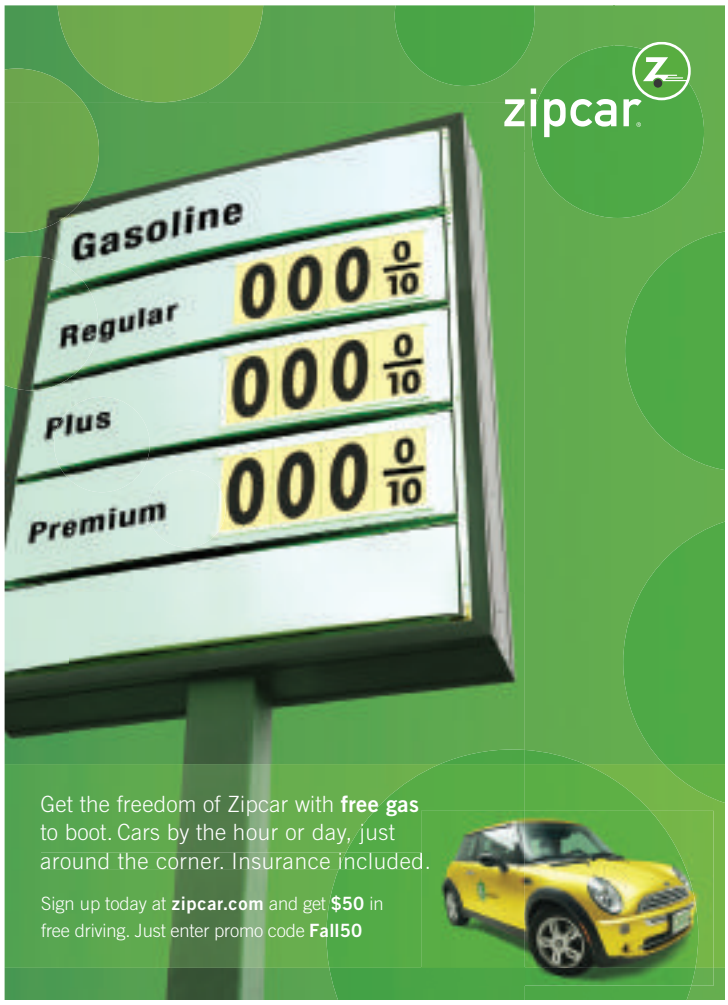
Air quality index hits Internet

POLLUTION Each year, an estimated 6,000 Canadians die prematurely as a result of air pollution. Even more are hospitalized for respiratory or cardiovascular illnesses or suffer minor effects, such as coughing.

In order to minimize their exposure to noxious pollutants, and take steps to reduce emissions from their own activities, Canadians need to know when the quality of the air they breathe poses a risk to their health.

The new Air Quality Health Index, found at www.airhealth.ca, is the first index of its kind to take into account how the level of exposure to multiple pollutants can affect your health.

NEWS CANADA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Visionary inside all of us

Eco-Minded

How you can help protect the planet

- Go mostly vegan or vegetarian. Animal products are expensive, and raising animals is a major source of emissions..
- Live in a dense community. Save transportation, heating, and electricity costs, and propel yourself into fitness..

It takes a visionary to turn danger into opportunity. Visionaries recognize that bad outcomes aren't produced by single errors but by the accumulation of constraints from thousands of little decisions.

Visionaries take stock and boldly reinvent themselves and the world around them. With climate change and the global food crisis, we're lucky that there's a visionary in each of us.

Consider the chemical giant DuPont: with strategic thinking, it cut its global warming pollution by 72 per cent over 16 years, saving $3 billion in energy costs.

Seeing yet more opportunity, DuPont now lobbies for mandatory emission reductions.

The rising price of oil will continue to fuel skyrocketing transportation costs and commodity prices (food included). The time to reinvent our lives and businesses for energy efficiency is NOW—for the sake of our wallets and the environment.

Politicians who snivel over the cost of change (fractions of a percentage point of GDP growth) forget the power of people rising to challenges in the name of worthy causes.

What cause is more worthy than crafting a sustainable world that we'll be proud to pass on to our children and grandchildren?

Kai Chan is an assistant professor and Canada Research Chair at the Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability (IRES) at UBC. Nathan Vadeboncoeur is a graduate student at IRES and a member of Canada's national track team.

Buyers still wary of green claims

It can be difficult for customers to know which cleaning products are really safer and better for the environment.

Young Canadian entrepreneurs and green cleaning product experts, David Stone and Jeremy Quinn, are owners of Oxi Brite, a green ideas company. Wal-Mart Canada approached the small household cleaning products company to partner with them on the development of the GreenLine. Quinn and Stone offer some advice on what to look for when picking environmentally preferable cleaning products.

"One of the reasons some Canadians haven't adopted green cleaning is because they don't trust that the products they're buying are really better for the environment." says Quinn. "The GreenLine is third-party certified by Canada's leading environmental certification program so customers can be certain they're choosing products better for the environment."

NEWS CANADA

Whitecaps take down Silverbacks 3-2

The Vancouver Whitecaps defeated the Atlanta Silverbacks 3-2 at Swangard Stadium yesterday. Eduardo Sebrango scored two second-half goals for the Whitecaps including the winner in the 88th minute. Jeff Clarke had the other Vancouver goal. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Del Porto downs Roddick

Argentine teenager Juan Martin Del Potro, left, upset top seed Andy Roddick 6-1, 7-6 yesterday to win the ATP event in Los Angeles and claim his third successive title. In his first final on hard courts Del Potro, 19, produced a brilliant and mature performance, rocketing winners past the American for his 14th consecutive victory.

REUTERS

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Buono quells controversy

Wally Buono wasted little time in quelling any potential talk of a Lions' quarterback controversy heading into the team's bye week.

Despite a sub-par performance from Jarious Jackson in which he went 11-24 for 150 yards and was replaced by Buck Pierce, Buono quickly confirmed Jackson as the starter heading into next week's game against Calgary. Buono's behavior is a sharp departure from the coach that waffled on his starting pivot early in the season.

One has to believe the current decisiveness has a lot to do with the media frenzy and resulting dissention in the locker room that occurred during the Dave Dickenson/Casey Printers era.

• Buono's attitude has also changed with regards to tailback Joe Smith, who has taken up residence in the coach's doghouse. When Stefan Logan replaced Smith in the backfield in weeks 3 and 4 this season, Buono told everyone that would listen that Smith was B.C.'s starting running back as soon as he was 100 per cent healthy.

Late last week, Buono publicly stated that Logan's latest insertion into the lineup had everything to do with performance and nothing to do with health. He took that assertion a step further this weekend when he confirmed that the Lions are all ears should any team call to inquire about Smith's services. Buono would not go so far as to say that Smith would be cut unless a rival club is willing to talk trade, but the writing appears to be on the wall if Logan continues to impress on the field.

This may strike some as an extreme case of "What have you done for me lately?" considering Smith led the CFL in rushing and touchdowns last season. However, Lions' fans have seen this story before, as it is eerily similar to the fashion in which Smith replaced then-incumbent runner Antonio Warren in the middle of 2006.

• It might not be that long before Justin Morneau supplants fellow British Columbian Larry Walker as the greatest Canadian hitter to ever play in the majors.

Though the 27 year-old's resume is far shorter than the one Walker constructed during sixteen years in big leagues, Morneau has put together three consecutive seasons that surpass any Walker was able to manage. By the end of September, Morneau will likely have hit more than 30 homers and driven in more than 100 runs in every year from 2006 to the present. He currently boasts 18 roundtrippers and 91 RBIs.

Scott Rintoul is a college athlete, sports fan and broadcaster. He can be heard Monday-Friday on the TEAM 1040 from 6-9 a.m.

Harrington makes it a double

GOLF Irishman Padraig Harrington putted superbly over the closing stretch to seal his second consecutive major title with a two-shot victory at the U.S. PGA Championship yesterday.

Harrington

One month after successfully defending his British Open crown at Royal Birkdale, Harrington held off the challenge of playing partner Sergio Garcia and American Ben Curtis with a four-under-par 66 at Oakland Hills Country Club.

Harrington became the first European to win the tournament in 78 years since Tommy Armour won in 1930.

REUTERS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Chicago White Sox 6 Boston 5
Cleveland 4 Toronto 0
Detroit 6 Oakland 1
Kansas City 5 Minnesota 4 (12 ings)
L.A. Angels 4 N.Y. Yankees 3
Tampa Bay 11 Seattle 3
Texas 15 Baltimore 7

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Florida 8 N.Y. Mets 2
Houston 13 Cincinnati 4
Philadelphia 6 Pittsburgh 3
Milwaukee 5 Washington 4 (13 ings)
San Diego 16 Colorado 7
San Francisco 5 L.A. Dodgers 4
Arizona 6 Atlanta 1
St. Louis 12 Chicago Cubs 3

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Toronto at Detroit, 5:05
Baltimore at Cleveland, 5:05
N.Y. Yankees at Minnesota, 6:10
Boston at Chicago White Sox, 6:11

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Mets, 11:10
Washington at Milwaukee, 12:05
St. Louis at Florida, 5:10
San Francisco at Houston, 6:05
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 8:10

CFL

WEEK 7

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
B.C. 40 Edmonton 34
Montreal 39 Winnipeg 11

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Calgary 30 Saskatchewan 25
Hamilton 45 Toronto 21

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING THE VANCOUVER WHITECAPS MEN'S TEAM:

YESTERDAY'S RESULT
VANCOUVER 3 Atlanta 2

BASEBALL

NORTHWEST LEAGUE GAMES FEATURING THE VANCOUVER CANADIANS:

LAST NIGHT'S RESULT
VANCOUVER 7 Spokane 2

TONIGHT'S GAME
Salem-Keizer at VANCOUVER, 7:05

Fencing

Calgary's Jujie Luan defeated Ines Boubakri of Tunisia 13-9 early this morning in her first match at the Beijing Games. She will face Hungary's Aida Mohamed in the next round. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beijing Games

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Records falling fast in the pool

American Phelps claims second gold in Beijing as team sets a new world standard

Michael Phelps dodged a bullet to collect his second gold medal and stay on course for a possible eight on an incredible record-breaking day at the Water Cube early this morning at the Beijing Olympics.

Phelps joined his American teammates Garret Weber-Gale, Cullen Jones and Jason Lezak to smash the 4x100 metre freestyle relay after a breathtaking struggle with France that threatened to sink his chances of breaking Mark Spitz's record of seven golds at a single Olympics.

France looked to have the gold in the bag when they led by half a body length with one lap to go but Jason Lezak overhauled Alain Bernard on the last stroke to win the gold in three minutes 08.24 seconds and carve nearly four seconds off the previous record, that was set yesterday.

Eamon Sullivan also claimed the individual world record in the same race when he led the Australian team off in 47.24, wiping 0.26 off Bernard's record. The Australians finished third, while Canada — led by Brent Hayden of Mission, B.C., who withdrew from the 200-metre freestyle semifinals to save his strength for the relay — placed sixth.

Japan's Kosuke Kitajima broke the world record to win the men's 100 breaststroke gold while Zimbabwe's Kirsty Coventry broke Natalie Coughlin's world record in the semifinals of the 100 backstroke.

Australia's women grabbed their second gold in the pool when Libby Trickett won the 100 butterfly final while Rebecca Adlington scored a surprise win in the 400 metres freestyle to provide Britain with their first female swimming gold medallist in nearly half a century.

Adlington stormed home on the last lap to overhaul American Katie Hoff and win the gold in 4:03.22 seconds.

Hoff held on to take the silver in 4:03.29 while Joanne Jackson provided Britain with a second medal when she finished third in 4:03.52. REUTERS

DAVID GRAY/REUTERS

Kosuke Kitajima of Japan celebrates winning the gold medal in the men's 100-metre breaststroke final early this morning with a world record time at the National Aquatics Center at the Beijing Games.

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Bush gets treated to U.S. victory

BASKETBALL The millionaire stars of the U.S. basketball team swept past hosts China yesterday in the showcase match-up of the Olympics, watched by tens of millions on Chinese TV and cheered on by U.S. President George W. Bush.

Talismanic giant Yao Ming, flag carrier for China at the opening ceremony, could not protect his colleagues from the speed and power of the NBA professionals.

Yao, who plays with the Houston Rockets, scored 13 points in the 101-70 loss to the U.S. in what was billed as the most watched basketball game in history.

Bush and his father, former President George H. W. Bush, huddled with the U.S. team ahead of the game to wish them luck.

"What's up, pops?" NBA scoring champion LeBron James quipped to Bush's ageing father.

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, the NBA's MVP, won a huge cheer from the star-dazzled home supporters but the loudest shout from the raucous 16,000 crowd was for Ming, China's favourite athlete along with 110m hurdler Liu Xiang.

The U.S. team is still smarting from winning only bronze at Athens in 2004 and has nicknamed itself the "Redeem Team". They have joked they will be unable to return home without the gold.

The Americans will face a tougher test in their other Preliminary Group B matches against world champions Spain and a tough Greece side that stunned them in the world semifinals in 2006.

Bush had earlier watched U.S. swimming sensation Michael Phelps demolish his own world record in a winning start to his bid for an unprecedented eight golds in a single Olympics. REUTERS

LUCY NICHOLSON/REUTERS

LeBron James helped lead Team USA over China yesterday.

Ivanovic drops out of singles

TENNIS Top seed Ana Ivanovic of Serbia withdrew from the Olympic tennis event yesterday with an injury to her right thumb. The French Open champion was due to take on Mariya Koryttseva of Ukraine in the first round but said yesterday she would go home to try to recover in time for the U.S. Open. Ivanovic said she had not been able to practise since arriving in China. REUTERS

Medal count

Rank	Nation				Total
#1	China	6	2	0	8
#2	U.S.	2	2	4	8
#3	S.Korea	3	2	0	5
#4	Italy	1	2	1	4
#5	Russia	0	3	1	4
#6	Japan	1	0	2	3
#7	France	0	2	1	3
#8	N.Korea	0	1	2	3
#9	Czech Rep.	2	0	0	2
#10	Australia	1	0	1	2
#11	Holland	1	0	1	2
#12	Spain	1	0	1	2
#13	Cuba	0	1	1	2
#14	Britain	1	0	0	1
#15	Romania	1	0	0	1
#16	Thailand	1	0	0	1
#17	Austria	0	1	0	1
#18	Hungary	0	1	0	1
#19	Sweden	0	1	0	1
#20	Turkey	0	1	0	1
#21	Vietnam	0	1	0	1
#22	Zimbabwe	0	1	0	1
#33	Canada	0	0	0	0

(Count at the end of Day 2)

Sports in brief

ATHLETICS Greek sprinter Katerina Thanou has been barred from competing in Beijing because of her role in a doping scandal four years ago, the International Olympic Committee said yesterday. Thanou qualified for Beijing but needed IOC approval to compete.

CYCLING Spanish cyclist Maria Isabel Moreno has become the first competitor at the Beijing Gamesto fail a drugs test, the IOC said early this morning. Moreno, entered for the women's road race and individual time trial, tested positive for the drug EPO. REUTERS

How US PSEs are plugging the "brain drain"
As the "brain drain" battle wages on, a number of U.S. public colleges and universities are turning towards specific initiatives to retain valuable faculty. Boosting faculty salaries is a primary pre-emptive tactic. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Expansion in Ottawa

Ottawa's two universities are seeking out more space to keep up with the rising student population. The University of Ottawa has issued a request for proposals to house its library warehouse while Carleton University seeks expansion as well.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Hop, skip and a jump to flip, soar and a leap

OddJobs

Diane Peters

After vaulting competitively, Stacey Clark turned it into a career.

Ever wonder what those lithe gymnasts romping across the mat in China this week will do when they grow up? You can't vault competitively forever.

But you can flip, soar, leap and balance for pay audiences, at least into your late thirties.

That's what Montrealler Stacy Clark, 38, does. She started gymnastics at age six and competed at the national level until a back injury made her quit in her mid-teens. "It was hugely disappointing. When you do a sport like that, which takes up so much of your time, it really defines you." She then had a "normal" life and went to Ryerson for media arts and got a job in advertising in Toronto.

She was 26 when she saw an outdoor flying trapeze rig and people doing aerial stunts. "Wow, I really have to try that," she said to herself. So she signed up for a circus class at Harbourfront Centre and took to it immediately. Eventually, she was taking classes four nights a week.

She met professional dancer Robin Szuch and the two worked well together. Realizing no one in Canada was doing circus work as street performers, they created High Strung Aerial Dance in 2000. They had a portable 20-foot-high trapeze made and landed their first gig within a few months.

Weekends were soon filled with outdoor performances in summer and corporate gigs in winter. Clark kept working, but her boss gave her the summer of 2003 off to perform. She quit the following spring when the company was offered, in quick succession, work on a TV show, a trip to Japan and a job with the Canadian Opera Company.

High Strung's street show combines theatre, comedy, acrobatics and aerial stunts. Clark wears a bun and plays the "straight" character while Szuch wears pigtails and is a total goof.

The show takes a lot of energy, strength and flexibility. On non performance days, to keep in top condition — not to mention looking great in her spandex costume — Clark either runs or does yoga.

While maybe not as gruelling as competitive athletics, this is a physical job that Clark knows she can't do forever. She recently moved back to Montreal to take a job with Cirque du Soleil as a talent scout. Her employer, of course, lets her take time off for performances.

"If my body hurts and I'm not having fun, then I don't want to do this," she says of her exit plan. "But right now, it's the greatest job on earth. We've performed in hail and in the pouring rain and we always have fun."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Aerialist
Salary: "I make as much as I did as an account director at an advertising agency."
Education: While Clark went the recreational training route, there are accredited circus schools across the country
Best part of the job: "Keeping fit is a perk, but the best part is that I love it."
Worst part of the job: "We don't have a crew, so we have to do everything ourselves."

Family carpet business has an irresistible draw

ANDREW KING
for Metro Vancouver

In the 1970s, Mohammad Salari followed his heritage by starting a Persian rug business in Germany before moving the rugs and his family to Vancouver in the late eighties.

Now his son Sasan has continued what his father started.

"I decided I didn't want to sit in front of a computer for 12 hours a day," said Sasan Salari, who had been tinkering with a career in technology before choosing rugs full-time.

Salari worked in the family business part-time as a student, but he never thought he would end up taking over the business.

"There's something that's just very satisfying about going in. You come into the store, you open the door, you smell the rugs ... over the last year or two I really decided (this was) what I wanted to do."

He knew that if he wanted the business to succeed, he would have to change the way people think of a carpet store.

Salari transformed rug shopping into a unique experience, modelling the showroom after an art gallery by hanging Persian rugs from the walls like canvasses.

"We tried to look at the business in a completely different way," said Salari. "When people think of a Persian rug store or a carpet store you know you think of piles on the floor ... when people come to our showroom it's something that's unexpected."

Sasan Salair

"It's really more of a showroom, a gallery, really focussing on the art and the artistry."

He said that the home remodelling craze and countless reality home renovation shows have also helped draw more customers and their designers to the store.

"I think people are a lot more aware of what's out there to some degree," he said, adding that the majority of his customers are well versed in carpet design and know what they are looking for.

When asked whether he hopes his two-year-old son will one day want to take over the business, he said: "I think I want to say 'No, I wish he didn't'. You always want to them to do something else and strike off on their own path, but you never know, the draw, it might pull him in."

"He's definitely going to be working there in the summers. That's for sure."

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Swift donation
Taylor Swift announced onstage at a concert in the flood-beleaguered town of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, that she's donating $100,000 US to the local Red Cross. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Inglorious role
Brad Pitt has joined the cast of Quentin Tarantino's next film Inglorious Bastards. The actor is expected to play the head of the Jewish resistance in World War II. BBC NEWS ONLINE

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Box office

Following are the top 10 films at the North American box office for the weekend beginning Aug. 8, according to studio estimates:

1. **The Dark Knight** $26 million US
2. **Pineapple Express** $22.4 million
3. **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** $16.1 million
4. **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** $10.8 million
5. **Step Brothers** $8.9 million
6. **Mamma Mia!** 8.1 million
7. **Journey to the Center of the Earth** $4.9 million
8. **Hancock** $3.3 million
9. **Swing Vote** $3.1 million
10. **WALL-E** $3 million

REUTERS

Gallagher pens tribute to Lennon

Liam Gallagher

MUSIC Liam Gallagher has written a tribute to John Lennon on the new Oasis album, female-first.co.uk reports.

The band's frontman has stunned fans and even his brother, bandmate Noel, with the tribute. The song, titled I'm Outta Time, features a clip of the late Beatles legend talking in an old interview and is already being tipped for release as a single from new Oasis album Dig out Your Soul.

Singer Isaac Hayes dies in Memphis

PEOPLE Oscar-winning soul singer Isaac Hayes died in Memphis yesterday, Reuters reports. He was 65.

Hayes' wife confirmed he was found unconscious at his home, and rushed to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The performer reached his commercial peak in 1972 when he won an Academy Award for his No. 1 hit Theme From Shaft.

In later years, Hayes reached a new audience by supplying the voice for Chef, the libidinous sage on the cartoon series South Park. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Comedian Mac dies at 50

Pneumonia claims life of popular Kings of Comedy, Ocean's star

Comedian and actor Bernie Mac, who starred in one of U.S. TV's few black sitcoms and appeared in the Ocean's 11 movies, died in Chicago on Saturday after a bout with pneumonia. He was 50.

Publicist Danica Smith confirmed the death in a statement but gave no further details. "We ask that his family's privacy continues to be respected," she said.

Reactions poured in from Hollywood, which was taken by surprise because two days ago, Smith said he was "responding well to treatment" and remained in "stable condition."

"The world just got a little less funny. He will be dearly missed," said George Clooney, who starred with Mac in the Ocean's trilogy of hit box office films.

Mac was hospitalized in Chicago on August 1, and Smith said then his illness was unrelated to a chronic tissue inflammation called sarcoidosis, which had been in remission since 2005.

The Chicago-born comedian, whose given name was Bernard Jeffrey McCullough, was best known for his TV comedy The Bernie Mac Show, which ran for five seasons until 2006.

Along with the Ocean's capers, he appeared in movies such as comedy Guess Who and Mr. 3000. He recently worked on a new TV show Starting Under and an upcoming film Soul Men.

"I reflect on my childhood, my young adulthood, the disappointments of life — the problems I brought on myself, the self-pity I went through before I became a man," he told Playboy magazine in 2003.

Mac achieved national prominence after joining the Kings of Comedy stand-up tour in 1997 with Steve Harvey, D.L. Hughley and Cedric the Entertainer. Tapping into an underserved market of middle-class blacks.

In 2001, The Bernie Mac Show debuted on Fox, drawing from Mac's personal life. He played a married stand-up comic reluctantly thrust into parenthood when he takes custody of his sister's three children after she enters rehab.

"Losing him is like losing 12 people because he absolutely filled up any room he was in. I'm gonna miss the Mac Man," said comic actor Chris Rock in a story at E! Online.

REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Actor and comedian Bernie Mac died in Chicago over the weekend.

"Losing him is like losing 12 people because he absolutely filled up any room he was in. I'm gonna miss the Mac Man." Chris Rock

Ensure your rec room ain't a wreck

InteriorDivine

Ah! The humble Canadian basement! A potentially useful and very comfy space . . . or an over stuffed nightmare that does little more than scream past tense. Our first word of advice is — PURGE! So many family rooms are crammed with a ramshackle selection of furniture (most of which never even gets used) so either give it away or send it to the dumpster. Your space is simply too valuable to waste!

Problem Solving

Paint ceilings a lighter tone than walls to effectively raise perceived head height. It's also important to keep ceiling lines simple by removing Crown moulding and cornice. De fuss further by taking away picture and dado rails to stop your walls looking chopped up and therefore shallower. Opt for narrower skirting boards and paint the same colour as walls to help them blend in.

Lighting

Avoid overhead pendant lamps. A well planned project will still look wonderful with shallow ceiling mounted tracks, side lighting, pot lights or wall washers.

Flooring

We avoid wooden floors in basements unless we're absolutely certain there's no possibility of dampness. Carpet is potentially serviceable; however; while it's tempting to select all wool, we recommend choosing a product with a higher man-made content as it's more resilient to moisture and mould. That said, our preferred lower level flooring option is tile. Whether slate, ceramic or stone, it provides a durable finish that is less likely to succumb to damp problems than other options.

Furniture

Keep furnishings low slung to distract from vertically challenged rooms. Opt for long lean sofas with a comfy squashy feel and seek out designs that have shorter legs to pull the eye down further. Keeping basement level floor space as free as possible will allow for good circulation so consider drawing a sectional modular L shaped sofa against one wall, positioning occasional tables at either end and adding side mood lighting to create ambience. Or go funky retro! In a recent Vancouver rec' room conversion we added BEAN BAGS and the results were fabulous. What's more, our owners were so impressed that they're currently installing more bags upstairs. Yup, it's all about context and being prepared to forgo apprehensions and try new (or is that old!?) ideas.

Colour

Limit bolder colour to easily changeable accessories and ornamentation. Applying stronger tones won't only darken space, it will also limit design flexibility further down the line.

Two For One

Think, too, about multi purpose furniture (tables that act as storage chests, for example, or cubes that moonlight as seating) to squeeze optimum flexibility from your family room. At the end of the day your space should be as multi-functional as possible. So remember, for example, to incorporate surfaces where your children can do homework under close supervision while you catch up with your favourite DVD.

Colin & Justin's The Home Show airs Tuesdays at 11 p.m. and Saturdays at 4 p.m. ET on HGTV. hgtv.ca

Branching out
Michael Kors, right, is flexing his acting muscles. The fashion designer will appear in an episode of Gossip Girl when the show returns with its second season, beginning Sept. 1. PEOPLE.COM

Going Out

5 p.m. Hard-rock/heavy metal band Motley Crue performs live. At General Motors Place, 800 Griffiths Way. Tix: $39.50- 85. Info: *generalmotorsplace.com*

7:30 p.m. Pop artist Chantel plays live. At The Beaumont Studios, 316 W. 5th Ave. Tix: $6. Info: *thebeaumontstudios.com*

8 p.m. American musician Matt Pryor performs live. At The Media Club, 695 Cambie St. Tix: $15. Info: *themediaclub.ca*

9 p.m. DJs SupaFly and Feroz spin Top 40, Mash-up and R&B. At Tonic Nightclub, 919 Granville St. Tix: $20. Info: *thetonicclub.com*

10 p.m. DJs Physik, Lefty and Sense play hip hop, R&B, Top 40, retro and techno. At Citrus Club, 20299 Industrial Ave. Tix: $8. Info: 604-530-8888.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Seacrest joins Clark on Eve

TELEVISION Ryan Seacrest has been named permanent co-host of ABC's Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve, three years after the ubiquitous broadcaster stepped into the breach when Clark suffered a stroke. The annual fixture has been renamed Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest. Clark, 78, will continue as co-host. Seacrest also hosts American Idol and a morning radio show in Los Angeles.

Iron Man out on DVD Sept. 30

MOVIES The superhero smash Iron Man will be released Sept. 30 on DVD and Blu-ray Disc, distributor Paramount Pictures said Friday. With North American sales of $316 million, the Robert Downey Jr. movie is the second-biggest movie of the year, behind The Dark Knight.

Paramount is releasing Iron Man as a two-disc "Ultimate Edition" on DVD and Blu-ray. Each includes a seven-part making-of documentary and a six-part feature on the origins of the Marvel superhero.

REUTERS

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Or Write to:
CHR Jobs, 372 Rideau St. #916-MV1

Lure of The Hills too much for many

THE TV CRITIC VERSION OF STOCKHOLM SYNDROME: Given a choice of watching my own death, in slow motion, set to a soundtrack of emo bands or an episode of The Hills, I'd choose the former without a moment's hesitation.

Still, the mere existence of MTV's hot hit "reality" show fascinates me to no end — but not enough to actually contemplate watching the thing.

My suspicion is that, for TV critics and other people somehow concerned with the viability of the medium, knowing that The Hills is out there is like searching out the highest hilltop to watch the planet-killing asteroid arc across the sky on its way to ending all life on earth; you know it's out there, and that nothing will ever be the same again, but there's nothing you can do to stop it, so you'd might as well enjoy the brilliant, fiery, jagged scar as it's cutting through the atmosphere.

Time magazine's James Poniewozik has it bad for The Hills, as he confessed in a paean to the show published last week.

"Yes, The Hills is fake," he admits right off the top. "Fake in the sense that producers and participants acknowledge reshooting scenes and doing multiple takes. Fake in the sense that MTV's beautiful 'stars' are famous for little more than being on The Hills.

"And fake in that it's proof that a beautiful shot and a well-chosen sound track can imitate emotion in even the most banal scene."

On second thought, though, Poniewozik prefers the word "artifice" to "fake," and his enthusiasm for the show is hardly deterred by words like "shallow" either.

"It all sounds shallow, and, O.K., it is," he practically swoons. "The surfaces are precisely what make The Hills entrancing: it is possibly the best-looking series on television. It doesn't just look better than life. It looks better than TV. Where most reality shows use garish close-ups to show hot emotions, The Hills uses middle- and long-range shots in wide-screen, giving it a cooler feel and framing the subjects like art photography. It's full of liquid L.A. sun, in love with the way light plays on surfaces — car bodies, plate glass, glossed lips."

Poniewozik has obviously penetrated much closer to the heart of The Hills' appeal — an appeal that's obviously there, though I've been utterly unable to divine its precise nature, or access any part of myself, past or present, that might have responded to The Hill's very circumscribed but exhaustively chronicled slice of life. "It's life, if you were young, lucky and beautiful and had your own cinematographer and sound-track curator," Poniewozik insists.

"If this is fake, maybe reality is overrated."

More to the point, it's hard to imagine that other networks aren't eager to learn the lesson being taught by The Hills' success, which is that if this is reality TV, then maybe fake TV is overrated.

James Poniewozik waxes poetic about The Hills in Time magazine. "It doesn't just look better than life. It looks better than TV," he writes.

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
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Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

critics' corner

The American Mall
Echoes of "High School Musical" and the more recent Disney offering "Rock Camp" abound in this new TV movie set in — surprise! — a shopping mall. Nina Dobrev ("Degrassi: The Next Generation") plays an aspiring singer-songwriter whose mom owns the mall's music store. She bonds with a janitor and wannabe rocker (Rob Mayes) but faces competition from the mall owner's devious daughter (Autumn Reeser, "The O.C."). You can probably guess how this turns out. 6 PM on MM

The Mole
So who is the Mole? We'll find out tonight, along with learning which remaining contestant takes home the big money for being the most successful at figuring out who's been sabotaging the group's missions. Did you guess the Mole's identity ahead of time? See if your suspicions were right or wrong; if you called it early, maybe you should apply to be on the show next season. **Jon Kelley** hosts the season finale. 10 PM on ABC

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 8/11/08	251	308	3 CBC	(3:00) XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				
	255	358	6 CH	E! News	The Insider	My Boys	How I Met	12 Sexiest Wet n' Wild Jobs		X-Weighted "Sarah" (CC)		News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Law & Order: SVU		Mandarin News		Cantonese News (N)		Punjabi News (In Punjabi N)		The Simpsons
	250	321	9 CTV	TMZ (N) (CC)	Degrassi	High School Musical: Picture		Canadian Idol Top six. (CC)		CSI: Miami (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	According-Jim	George Lopez	Happy Days	Growing Pains	Jeeves and Wooster (CC)		The Daily	Diya (CC)	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Prison Break "Dirt Nap"		House "Fetal Position" (CC)		Risk Takers "Blasters" (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	Friends (CC)	Wanna Bet? (CC)		Sarah Connor Chronicles		Comedy Now (CC)		News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Harlem Globetrotters		Supermodel-Canada Finals		The Mole (Season Finale) (N)		Reviews
	-	-	14 CW	'70s Show	'70s Show	Gossip Girl (CC)		One Tree Hill (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Old Christine	CSI: Miami (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Olympic Zone	XXIX Summer Olympics (CC)						
	602	568	19 W	How Clean	How Clean	How Clean	House	Confidential	Divine Design	How Clean	Kim	House
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	High School Musical: Picture		Samantha	Samantha	The Mole (Season Finale) (N)		News (N)
	-	-	22 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Scrubs (CC)	Gator ★★★ (1976, Adventure) Burt Reynolds, Lauren Hutton.				Cheers (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Seinfeld
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Antiques	Antiques Roadshow (CC)		History Detectives (N) (CC)		Chasing Churchill: In Search		True Whispers
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Prison Break "Dirt Nap"		Sarah Connor Chronicles		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	29 PBS	Muhammad Ali: Miami		Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Antiques Roadshow (CC)	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Cheers (CC)	South Park	Comics Un.	Half & Half	Entertainment	The Insider	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (CC)		One Tree Hill (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	Frasier (CC)	George Lopez	Odd Couple
	199	311	38 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		(:37) Psych "Spellingg Bee"		Late Late Show	
news	502	390	63 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Toughing It Out (CC)		National
	500	500	68 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Triathlon Subaru Vancouver.		Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	(4:00) XXIX Summer Olympics		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Cagefighting Highlights		Poker Night (Taped)		SportsCentre
	411	457	33 OLN	Departures (CC)		Pilot Guides (CC)		Don't Forget Your Passport		The Amazing Race 7 (CC)		
	410	403	34 SCR	WWE Monday Night Raw		(:15) Stump the Schwab		WWE Monday Night Raw (CC)				Score Update
	417	406	35 SC	Barrett-Jackson		Pinks	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR		101 Cars	Car Crazy	Auctions
	416	409	144 GLF	(6:00) Fútbol		Gol TV News		2010 Report		Gol TV News		Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	The Next Star (CC)		Rugrats (CC)	Rocko's Life	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach (CC)		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	George	Tom & Jerry	Tom and Jerry	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Akira ★★★ (1988) Voices of Mitsuo Iwata.		
	557	541	51 FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	58 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	The Bittles	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Leading Edge	Wild at Heart	Realm of the Killer Whale		Blue Vinyl (CC)			Grannies	Vultures-Carr.
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Karaoke Star "Edmonton, AB"		Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Ed (CC)
	570	580	42 MM	(6:00) The American Mall		The American Mall (2008) Nina Dobrev, Autumn Reeser.				Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Spotlight
	600	564	43 H&G	Location, Location, Location		Holmes on Homes (CC)		Design U	Home to Stay	Property	House	Location, Loc.
	615	520	51 A&E	Paranormal	Paranormal	The Cleaner "Chaos Theory"		Intervention "Marie" (CC)		Intervention "Allison" (CC)		Paranormal
	628	584	62 SPKE	(6:00) Rudy ★★★ (1993, Drama) Sean Astin.			Madden '09	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Deep Space 9
	521	560	24 TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Take Home Nanny		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Little People
	616	522	63 SHO	ReGenesis Phantom-limb pain.		Cold Squad "First Deadly Sin"		Trailer Park	Billable Hours	Jekyll An ancient organization.		(:05) House
	620	523	90 BVO	Bone (CC)		Law & Order "Turnaround"		Without a Trace "Blood Out"		Entourage	(:45) Blockbuskers (CC)	
	601	562	41 SLC	The Millionaire Matchmaker		End of Leash	Spoiled	Wedding SOS	Party Mamas	The Millionaire Matchmaker		Trading Sp
	520	505	42 DIS	Dirty Jobs (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Really Big Things		Dirty Jobs (CC)		MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "Head Case" (CC)		Cities of the Underworld		Gangs of New York ★★★ (2002) Leonardo DiCaprio. Premiere. (CC)				
	627	528	45 SPC	(6:00) Taken "God's Equation"		Stargate SG-1 "Resurrection"		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Star Trek: Enterprise (CC)		Star Trek Gen.
	294	650	47 TBS	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Bill Engvall	Bill Engvall	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	The Time Machine ★★ (2002) Guy Pearce.		
	619	525	48 TROP	Deal or No Deal Canada		ET Canada	What	X-Weighted "Amy" (CC)		Are You Smarter		Deal-No Deal
	603	561	52 FN	Kitchen Nightmares "Lela's"		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Iron Chef America (CC)		Good Eats	Perfection	Nightmares
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	MADtv (CC)		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	Stargate Atlantis (CC)		Black August (2007) Gary Dourdan, Darren Bridgett.				Conversations With Other Women ★★★		
	581	566	101 MTV	Living	Super Sweet	MTV Live	Second Half	Buzzin (CC)	Buzzin	Living	Super Sweet	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Divine Restor.	Recreat. Eden	China's Leap of Faith (CC)		McLeod's Daughters		Prime Minister	Watchtower	Paid Program
	-	-	109 MUL	The Land	Daughters	Doctor Song Lian Sheng		Marimar		GMA Telesine Night		Patrol World

What baby?
Rumours that actress Angie Harmon is pregnant with baby No. 3 are not true, her husband, former NFL star Jason Sehorn has said. USMAGAZINE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Kate will talk about ex-husband

RELATIONSHIPS Even though Kate Hudson has indicated she likes to keep her private life private, she admitted she finds it tough to stay tightlipped, msnbc.com reports.

"It's so hard for me — because I'm so open — to hold back," the actress told W magazine. "I could really just go on forever about this stuff."

Hudson never publicly acknowledged her recent romance and subsequent breakup with Tour de France champ Lance Armstrong. In fact, there's only one former flame she's willing to open up about, and that's her ex-husband, Black Crowes front man Chris Robinson.

"We can talk about Chris till the dogs come home," Hudson said. "I married Chris, I had a baby with Chris, Chris will be in my life for the rest of my life. But everything else — I've learned that things are better left private until you're actually planning the wedding."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Anne pans nips, tucks

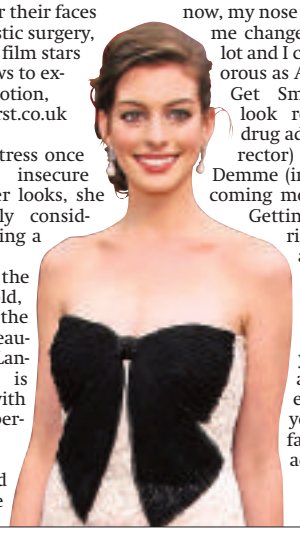
PEOPLE Anne Hathaway has taken aim at actors who alter their faces with plastic surgery, insisting film stars need flaws to express emotion, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress once felt so insecure about her looks, she reportedly considered having a nose job.

But the 25-year-old, now the face of beauty giant Lancome, is happy with her imperfections because they lend her face character.

"I wanted a nose job, but now, my nose is what lets me change my face a lot and I can be glamorous as Agent 99 (in Get Smart), then look rough as a drug addict for (director) Jonathan Demme (in the forthcoming movie Rachel Getting Married)," Hathaway said. "Your face needs to have character if you're an actor, otherwise you're just a face," she added.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity brief

Ex-Idol hopeful welcomes son

BABY NEWS Former American Idol contestant Clay Aiken and music producer Jaymes Foster welcomed a baby boy Friday, the singer said in a statement on his website.

Parker Foster Aiken was born at a North Carolina hospital. In May, it was confirmed that Foster, 50, became pregnant via in vitro fertilization, People.com reports.

Though they are not romantically linked, Foster and Aiken plan to raise the child together.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Jewel says 'I do' to rodeo champ

RELATIONSHIPS Singer-songwriter Jewel and her boyfriend, rodeo champion Ty Murray, eloped to the Bahamas and exchanged vows in a private ceremony Thursday night, People.com reports her rep as having said.

The pair, who never announced an engagement, have been together for 10 years and share a ranch in Stephenville, Tex.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Paris plans Vegas club

PEOPLE Paris Hilton wants a Las Vegas hotspot to call her own, intouchweekly.com reports.

"I'm in talks right now," the hotel heiress said. "I think I found a really good space."

Hilton should have no trouble getting people to line up.

"The Vegas crowds love her," says a Las Vegas nightlife insider. "It's a mob scene every time she arrives."

And while Hilton is coy about the details, she already has a name.

"But I can't tell anyone," she says. "It's not trademarked yet!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Penelope lauds private life

PEOPLE Actress Penelope Cruz's personal life is "the best" it has ever been, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Cruz is dating actor Javier Bardem and is delighted with the way her one-year relationship is going.

"I have to tell you, my private life is at its best," she said.

However, when pressed on the subject, Cruz refused to elaborate. "If you want to know more about him, then please ask him," she said. "I am not going to say any more. I never discuss my personal life. I love being in the spotlight for what I do, which is to act, but I find being in the spotlight for my personal life really uncomfortable."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Julia may be planning fourth child

RELATIONSHIPS Actress Julia Roberts and her husband Danny Moder are planning a fourth child, femalefirst.co.uk reports friends as saying.

A year after giving birth to the couple's third child, Henry — brother to twins Phinnaeus and Hazel — Roberts is keen to expand the family further, with a second daughter.

Roberts and Moder are said to hope to conceive by the end of the summer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Victoria to help launch Eva's new restaurant

PEOPLE Victoria Beckham has been approached to launch a restaurant in Las Vegas with Desperate Housewives star Eva Longoria Parker, the Daily Mail reports.

"Eva owns a restaurant called Beso in Hollywood and is set to launch another in Vegas," says a source. "She asked Victoria to come on board and help. Victoria was thrilled and talked it through with her husband David, but he thought she was spreading herself a bit thin."

Victoria will still reportedly get involved in the venture — she'll reportedly oversee the guest list for the launch night.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

Clay Aiken is a father, and claims on his website that the baby was delivered at 8:08 a.m. on 08/08/08.

That's not the least bit creepy, Clay. No word on whether this was the first use of the "Figure 8" section delivery, or how close they came to naming the baby "Beijing Olympics Aiken."

I have to hand it to **Ty Murray**, who just married **Jewel**. Not only does he seem like a regular guy, he's a regular guy who's apparently been able to withstand 10 straight years of Jewel singing round-the-house a capella versions of her 1996 hit Who Will Say-yay-yave Your Soul without suffering a complete mental collapse, or doing what I would have done, and asking her whether or not that's a rhetorical question.

Anne Hathaway's sentiments about avoiding plastic surgery are admirable, but they show that our Anne hasn't been following the awards shows lately. In 2003, the Oscars handed the statuette to the fake-nose sporting **Nicole Kidman** for playing Virginia Woolf in The Hours. The following year, both **Renée Zellweger** and **Charlize Theron** took home statuettes for using dirt, makeup and prosthetics to appear surprisingly unattractive in movie roles.

The lesson is obvious. Do whatever it takes to make yourself as purty as possible in real life, then take a part as an ugly duckling novelist, serial killer, or scrappy farmhand, and it's Oscar time, baby!

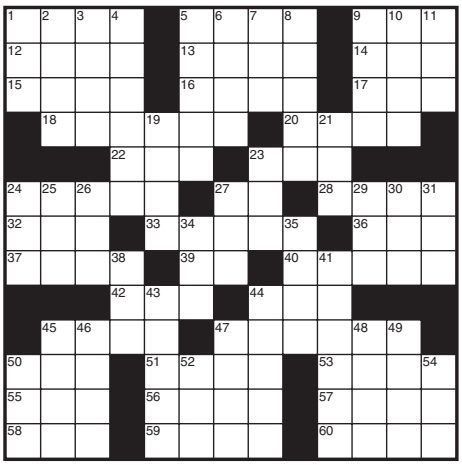
You have to admit, **Paris Hilton** is breaking new ground. She's usually in the news for opening something quite different than a nightclub. As for the name, I'm afraid she's going to be very disappointed, because even though I failed out of law school, I'm fairly certain that the makers of Valtrex won't let her have that name for her club.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Blackwell wakes from coma

Hollywood fashion critic Mr. Blackwell has regained consciousness after collapsing at his Los Angeles home last week, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Publicist Harlan Boll has reportedly confirmed the 86-year-old is now conscious after waking from a coma on Thursday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Skip stones
2 Round tent
3 Adams or Brickell
4 Endorsed
5 Baby grand
6 Trapped like — —
7 Super Bowl roar
8 Happen next
9 Pluck
10 Disappointed cry (2 wds.)
11 Coal measure
19 Dries out, as wood
21 Pester
23 Bark
24 — -Magnon man
25 Whir
26 Call — — day
27 Taro-root paste
29 Racing circuit
30 Wildcat strike
31 Kind of humor
34 Go quickly
35 In — (as found)
38 Pirate's quaff
41 Countless
43 Bridges
44 Bend down
45 Loathsome
46 Goodall subject
47 Wrist bone
48 Make mention of
49 Powder, to skiers
50 Herd of whales
52 Guanabara Bay port
54 Observe secretly

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Crossword across

1 Colors
5 Fix apples
9 Understood
12 German import
13 Shah's land
14 Frat letter
15 Fuddy-duddy
16 Long sighs
17 Traveler's refuge
18 Apartment dweller
20 Till
22 Freud topic
23 Pro vote
24 Scold
27 Informal parent
28 Candle's light
32 Furrow
33 Boutiques
36 Gas-station freebie, once
37 FitzGerald's poet
39 Two, Roman-style
40 Hint at
42 Not waste
44 Shoat's home
45 Boot upper
47 Complete reversals (hyph.)
50 Orange seed
51 Alice's chronicler
53 Atom fragments
55 Bullring yell
56 Mexican lad
57 Surmounting
58 Some, to Pierre
59 Motel freebie
60 Fresh

previous day's answer

B	O	K		T	A	O	S		Y	A	W	N
A	X	E		U	L	N	A		A	R	I	A
B	E	E		R	I	C	O		K	E	L	P
E	N	L	A	R	G	E		S	K	A	T	E
			H	E	N		M	O	E			
B	F	L	A	T		B	U	D	D	I	N	G
E	L	I			W	I	G			C	U	E
G	U	Z	Z	L	E	D		M	A	Y	B	E
			A	Y	E		B	U	M			
A	L	O	N	E		C	A	L	Y	P	S	O
R	A	N	I		Z	I	T	I		Y	A	P
L	I	T	E		A	A	H	S		R	I	A
O	D	O	R		G	O	S	H		E	L	L

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Wait until tomorrow to make a significant decision. A meeting will please you and your friend. Don't dawdle on the way home.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
There'll be a delay in getting results. Come up with a better plan while in transit. Regret is brought about by a friend's social blunder.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't be too embarrassed when you're conspicuous. Stay focused on what needs to be done. Negotiate over a serious concern.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
This could be a roller-coaster type of a day. Your convictions can determine events. Intervention will be necessary in legal matters.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
A stubborn person decides that it's time to quibble. Your personal resources will increase. You may be accused of being prim.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A couple will decide to tie the knot. Your suggestion is being considered by the boss. A trusted person has a trick up his sleeve.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You'll learn to tune into a loved one. Today's debate will intrude on your quiet time. Avoid obsessing over trivial mistakes.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24- NOV 22
Nostalgia for a lost love leads to deep thoughts. A woman is gone with the wind. Don't challenge a cynical person.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23- DEC 21
A phone call brings very strange news. Be fearless in approaching the unknown. A unique romantic chance will arise.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You can find the obvious solution to a problem. Watch when others behave differently. Do something good for a proud person.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Remember to rest up after a hard job. Your body knows best. You'll fling your disbelief out the window before noon.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MAR 20
A wiggling idealist fails to win attention. A tolerant woman can see through other people. Comments are made about never finding love.

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Sudoku

7	4			9		1		8
		6						3
8					3		9	
		2	9		1			
3				8				9
			6		7	5		
	3		2					7
2						3		
1		7		6			5	4

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

9	4	6	3	1	5	2	7	8
7	8	5	6	4	2	1	3	9
1	3	2	7	8	9	5	6	4
2	6	3	1	7	8	9	4	5
5	7	8	9	6	4	3	2	1
4	9	1	5	2	3	6	8	7
6	1	4	2	5	7	8	9	3
3	5	7	8	9	6	4	1	2
8	2	9	4	3	1	7	5	6

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

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WORDY GURDY

Vancouver weather

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Sunny. 20°	Clear. Low 13°	Partly sunny. 20°/ 16°	Variable. 20°/ 15°	Sunny. 24°/ 17°

Temperature Normals
High: 22.7°
Low: 13.4°

Records
High: 29.4°/1990
Low: 10°/1966

Sunrise: 5:59 a.m.
Sunset: 8:34 p.m.
Moonset: 12:20 a.m.
Moonrise: 5:55 p.m.

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